#### <u>REMARKS</u>

### I. General Remarks

Please consider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of this application.

## II. Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-4, 7-26, and 29-67 are pending in this application.

Claims 54-60 and 65-67 are allowed.

Claims 1-53 and 61-64 have been cancelled. All amendments are made in a good faith effort to advance the prosecution on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to subsequently take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part and/or divisional applications.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments submitted herein be entered, and further requests reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

### III. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has stated that claims 54-60 and 65-67 are allowable over the art of record. Applicants thank the Examiner for his recognition that these claims are drawn to allowable subject matter, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for these claims.

#### IV. No Waiver

All of Applicants' amendments and remarks are without prejudice or disclaimer. By not responding to additional statements made by the Examiner, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's additional statements, such as, for example, any statements relating to what the prior art of record discloses and/or what would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

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# **SUMMARY**

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, as indicated below.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for any extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition therefore, and directs that any fees be debited from Baker Botts L.L.P., Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.,) Order Number 063718.0504.

Respectfully submitted,

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